



November 2003

Dear Colleagues,

As Secretary Whit Clement informed you in September, we've changed the format, time and location for the annual [Six-Year Improvement Program Update](#) public hearings in hopes of making it easier for the public to participate in the planning process. The Northern Virginia hearing will be held Nov. 13 at Oakton High School in Fairfax County. From 5-7 p.m., the public can view a video about the program, review maps and displays and submit comments. At 7 p.m. Secretary Clement and Karen Rae, Director of Rail and Transportation Director will make brief presentations. Citizens and elected officials will be called to speak in the order they signed up at the door. Speakers must sign up in person and will be limited to three minutes.

On Oct. 22, construction began to replace the two-lane [Route 123 Bridge](#) over the Occoquan with a six-lane bridge. VDOT worked closely with the Town of Occoquan to design a bridge that will be compatible with the historic waterfront community. The \$24.6 million concrete span will have 10-foot shoulders, a median and sidewalk as well as decorative railings, columns and arched girders. Work will be completed in 2006.

On Oct. 27, two new slip ramps for buses opened on the Dulles Toll/Access Road just east of Hunter Mill Road. The slip ramps will cut down on travel time for Fairfax County buses during congested rush hours. High-tech automated gates will prevent unauthorized use of the ramps and relieve Virginia State Police from having to manually open and close the gates. The county-administered project was funded by \$4.5 million in county bonds and with \$3.9 million in VDOT Dulles Toll Road revenues.

Last week, VDOT completed construction of a pedestrian bridge near Featherstone Road at Veterans Park. The \$1.5 million bridge over the CSX railroad was completed one week ahead of schedule.
Sincerely,

Tom Farley
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Northern Virginia District Administrator
Virginia Department of Transportation
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What's New

Six-Year Improvement Program Update Hearing

Thursday, November 13

Help update Virginia's Transportation Program
See displays, submit comments and sign up to speak between 5 and 7 p.m.
Formal presentation begins at 7 p.m.
Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Oakton, VA

Design Public Hearing: I-95 at the Franconia-Springfield Parkway

Wednesday, November 19

5-8 p.m.

Presentation at 6 p.m. followed by Q&A
Key Middle School
6402 Franconia Road, Springfield, VA
Review plans for adding a non-HOV ramp from the I-95 south regular lanes to
Franconia-Springfield Parkway westbound.

Third Annual Incident Management Conference

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Dulles Expo Center
Chantilly, Virginia

Register online: www.ncr-incidentmanagement.com

The conference will feature experts from around the region who keep traffic moving during extraordinary incidents. On the agenda: an overview of the region's emergency response plans, planning and response to Hurricane Isabel, expert advice on responding to major regional incidents, handling hazmat incidents and a crash investigation demonstration.

Fairfax County Parkway – Public Hearing

Wednesday, Dec 3, 2003

5:00- 8:00 p.m.

Saratoga Elementary School
8161 Northumberland Road, Springfield, VA
Review and submit comments on plans to build four lanes from
Rolling Road to Fullerton Road.

News Releases

[VDOT Breaks Ground for New Route 123 Bridge](#)

[VDOT Public Meetings on Regional Bikeway Network](#)

[Help VDOT Develop Special Highway Zones](#)



Fairfax & Arlington Co.



For more information about
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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

Burke Lake Road Widen from two to four lanes from Lee Chapel Road to the Fairfax County Parkway (1.2 miles).
Ad date: Dec. 2003

Dulles Toll Road Modify Smart Tag lanes at both Route 28 and the Main Toll Plaza. This will include upgrading toll collection equipment and signage for Smart Tag lanes. The existing Smart Tag lane at Route 28 North will be improved to an open toll lane. Ad date: July 2003.

Glebe Road Install left turn lanes on Glebe Road at Columbia Pike. Ad date: Dec. 2003.

Interstate 395 Enhance signage from Washington Boulevard to the District of Columbia line. Ad date, Dec. 2003.

Interstate 495 Erect a sound wall, 2,089 feet in length, on the inner loop of the Capital Beltway just north of Old Dominion Drive at West Langley. Ad date: Jan. 2004.

Lorton Road Widen from two to six lanes from Route 1 to Silverbrook Road including a new bridge over Pohick Creek (1.06 miles). Ad date: Dec. 2003.

Pleasant Valley Road Straighten curves north and south of Braddock Road and north of Martins Hundred Road. Ad date: July 2003.

Route 1 Widen from four to six lanes from south of Lorton Road to north of Telegraph Road (1.2 miles). Ad date: October 2003 (contingent on roadway easement from Ft. Belvoir).

West Ox Road Widen from two to four lanes from Ox Trail to Lawyers Road (1.1 mile). Ad date: Sept. 2003.

Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. Projects) (<http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>)

- Build new Washington Street overpass to span wider Beltway. Begins early 2003.
- Starting spring 2003, Washington Street approaching and over the Beltway will transition from four lanes to three, with a reversible lane maintaining two lanes in the direction of dominant traffic flow (e.g. northbound in the morning).
- Build new Beltway tie-in to future bridge. Begins mid 2003.
- Build bridges over Cameron Run and Hunting Creek to line up with widened Beltway. Begins mid 2003.
- Demolish three Hunting Terrace buildings and two office buildings. Begins mid 2003.
- Construct new Route 1 interchange. Begins late 2003.
- Widen Beltway between Route 1 and Telegraph Road. Begins late 2003.

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Under Construction

Beulah Street Widen from two to four lanes between the Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Franconia Road (1.3 miles). Completion, summer 2004. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-BeulahStreet.asp>)

Barnsfield Road and Route 28 Interchange Partial cloverleaf to provide access to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Interchange will be open prior to the opening of the Museum in Dec. 2003. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-barnesfield.asp>)

Dulles Toll Road/Capital Beltway Widening ramps from one to two lanes both to and from the Capital Beltway. Completion, Sept. 2004.

Dulles Toll Road at Spring Hill Road Expanding toll plaza at the westbound Spring Hill Road entrance from one lane to three. Smart Tag can be used in all three lanes. Completion, Nov. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-dulles_plaza.asp)

Rolling and Fullerton Roads Align intersection and add turn lanes. When completed, motorists will be able to use Fullerton Road through the Industrial Park. Completion, Nov. 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-Rolling_FullertonRd.asp)

Route 28 Improvements Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC will design and construct six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties over the next four years. (<http://www.28freeway.com/>)

Route 123 Widening Phase 2 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from Lee Chapel Road to North Davis Drive (2.5 miles). Completion, summer 2004. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-123ph2.asp>)

Route 123 Widening Phase 3 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from North Davis Drive to Route 722 (1.9 miles). Completion, October 2004.

Route 233 (Reagan National Airport) Bridge deck repairs and concrete overlay. Completion, Dec. 2003

Springfield Interchange Phases 6 and 7, the final phases of the project are underway. The project remains on schedule. For lane closures, maps, photos and commuter options please visit springfieldinterchange.com. (<http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/>)

Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. projects) Soil strengthening and stabilization work started Dec. 2001 and will continue until mid-2004. Demolition of one Hunting Tower building and two adjacent garages began in March 2003. (<http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>)

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Completed Since 2001

Burke Centre Parkway Widened from two to four lanes between Marshall Pond Road and Burke Lake Road. Improvements included dedicated left and right turn lanes, sidewalks and a multi-purpose trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, a new drainage system and signal improvements to help traffic flow. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-burke-ctr-pkwy.asp>)

Columbia Pike Bridge over Four Mile Run Replaced original bridge, widened sidewalk on south side of bridge, replaced and repaired drainage systems and constructed approach slabs. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/arlington-columbiapikebridge.asp>)

Fairfax County Parkway Completion of the northern section of the Fairfax County Parkway gives motorists a continuous four and six-lane highway from Route 7 in Dranesville to Beulah Street in Kingstowne. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-ctyparkway.asp>)

Lorton Road Traffic back-ups at the Lorton Road underpass have eased since the road was widened from one to two lanes. The 70-year-old CSX bridge over Lorton Road was replaced with a 227-foot long bridge. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lorton.asp>)

Lorton Road Park-and-Ride Constructed a new 170-space lot located just east of I-95. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lortonrd-parkride.asp>)

Old Dominion Drive Bridge The 50-year-old bridge over Pimmit Run Creek on Old Dominion Drive in McLean has been improved and is open to motorists. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-olddom.asp>)

Route 28/Route 29 Interchange Construction of a grade-separated interchange in Centreville is now complete. Route 28 traffic flows uninterrupted under Route 29 and both roads have six through lanes and additional turn lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt2829.asp>)

Route 123 Widening Phase 1 Widened Route 123 to four lanes divided from Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles). Opened summer 2003. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt123widening.asp>)

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Site and support work for construction of the new Museum south of Dulles International Airport. Includes completing service roads, haul roads, taxi pad, utilities and visitor and bus parking lots. Completed September 2003. (<http://www.nasm.si.edu/nasm/ext/>)

Springfield Interchange Improvement Project Phases 2 and 3, which focused on improvements to I-95, Route 644 and other local roads in Springfield, were completed in late 2001. (<http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/>)

Stringfellow Road Park-and-Ride Constructed a 387-space lot adjacent to the I-66 HOV Lanes. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-stringfellowp-r.asp>)

Sydenstricker Road Park-and-Ride Constructed a 170-space lot at the corner of Sydenstricker Road and Hooes Road, just off the Fairfax County Parkway. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-sydenstricker.asp>)

Telegraph Road Widening Widened from two lanes to four lanes with a 16-foot median and two four-foot bicycle lanes from Beulah Street to Route 1 (2.5 miles). (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-telegraph.asp>)

Van Dorn Street Safety Improvements New sidewalks, curb and gutter, roadway lighting, business entrances and a raised, landscaped concrete median were added. Completed July 2003. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-vandorn-safety.asp>)



Loudoun Co.

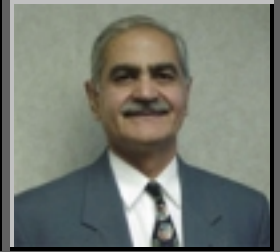


For more information about
Loudoun County projects contact

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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised

Claude Moore Park (Route 1006) Improve existing north entrance by adding southbound left and northbound right turn lanes at the intersection with Route 637 opposite Maries Road. Ad date: August 2004.

Maryland Avenue (Route 708) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 709 to Route 1102 (.22 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Ad date: July 2004.

Milton Court (Route 836) Improve ditch drainage from Route 817 to end of State maintenance (.11 mile) Ad date: January 2004.

Potomac View Road (Route 637) Improve 1200 feet of roadway to provide 12-foot lanes and construct right and left turn lanes at the entrance to First Baptist Church. Ad date: March 2004.

Red Bud Lane (Route 1505) Upgrade from a dirt road to a paved road from Route 1504 to one mile south of Route 1504. Construction will begin in fall 2003.

Rodgers Street (Route 1103) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 7 to Route 1105 (.13 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Ad date: July 2004.

Stumptown Road (Route 662) Install drainage pipe across Route 662, just west of Route 15. Ad date: October 2004.

Ticonderoga Road (Route 613) Improve and realign intersection at Route 659. Ad date: Oct. 2003.

West Virginia Avenue (Route 1105) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 1102 to Route 1103 (.11 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Ad date: July 2004.

Loudoun County Projects Under Construction

Old Ox Road (Route 606) Widen from two to four lanes between Route 50 and Evergreen Mills Road /Route 621 (.81 miles) and improve drainage. A traffic signal will be installed at Route 621. Completion, fall 2003.

Route 28 Improvements Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC will design and construct six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties over the next four years. (<http://www.28freeway.com/>)

Shelburne Glebe Road (Route 729) Replace temporary bridge with permanent bridge over North Fork Goose Creek located .66 miles north of North Fork Road (Route 728). Completion, summer 2004.

For questions or comments please contact - VDOTNutsAndBolts@virginiadot.org

Loudoun County Projects Completed Since 2001

Dulles North Transit Center Park-and-Ride A 750-space commuter lot has been constructed at the Dulles Greenway and Route 606. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt606p-r.asp>)

Featherbed Road Rehabilitation and deck replacement on truss span bridge located between Loyalty Road and Milltown Road.

Lime Kiln Road Upgraded from gravel to asphalt and realigned roadway to improve sight distance (2.1 miles). (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-limekiln.asp>)

Loudoun Orchard Road (Route 662) Upgrade dirt road to a paved road from intersection of Mt. Gilead Road (Route 797) to 0.38 miles South of Route 729 (1.3 miles). This is a pilot project under VDOT's new Rural Rustic Road Program.

Route 7 Crews added an additional lane in each direction between Cedar Drive and Dranesville Road. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt7.asp>)

Route 15 Safety improvements between Balls Bluff Road and White's Ferry Road (1.7 miles). (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt15-ballsbluff-whitesferry.asp>)

Route 28 Crews widened Route 28 and added two dedicated left-turn lanes onto Route 606 in Loudoun County. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt28.asp>)

Route 50 Bridge at Aldie Repair work is complete for the 180-year-old stone arch bridge on Route 50 over Little River near the Aldie Mill. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-aldie.asp>)

Route 287 VDOT crews eliminated the curve on Berlin Road to improve sight distance for motorists approaching the intersection. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt287.asp>)

South Church Street A half-mile section of South Church Street between Lovettsville Road and Berlin Turnpike was widened to improve safety. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-sthchurch.asp>)

Taylorstown Road Upgraded from a gravel road to a paved road between Furnace Mountain Road and Wilt Store Road. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-taylorstown.asp>)

Woodburn Road VDOT upgraded Woodburn Road from gravel to asphalt, realigned sections to improve sight distance and added drainage and other safety features. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-woodburn.asp>)

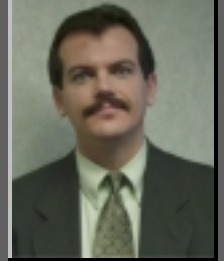


Prince William Co.



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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

I-66 Widening Add one regular lane and one HOV lane in each direction from Route 234 Business to the Route 234 Bypass (3 miles). Ad date: spring 2004.

Route 234 (Dumfries Road) Widen from two to four lanes between Snowfall Road and Eclipse Drive (3.2 miles). Ad date: Nov. 2003.

Prince William County Projects Under Construction

Ingram Drive Pave gravel road from 75 feet north of Chestnut Creek to Logmill Road (.77 miles). Ad date: Completion, late 2003.

Route 123 Bridge Over Occoquan River Replace two-lane bridge with a new six-lane bridge and widen approaches. Completion, May 2006.

Route 234 Bypass Construct sound wall adjacent to the Great Oaks Subdivision. Completion, fall 2003.

Prince William County Projects Completed Since 2001

Horner Road Park-and-Ride Lot Expansion Completed the largest commuter lot in Virginia, with 2,267 spaces added by VDOT and the county. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-horner-ParkRide.asp>)

I-95 Bridge over Route 619 The 36-year-old north and southbound bridges over Route 619 were replaced with new bridges and shoulders wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt619.asp>)

I-95 Bridges over Quantico Creek The 40-year-old north and southbound bridges over Quantico Creek were reconstructed with new bridge piers and widened shoulders. The bridges are wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95quantico.asp>)

I-95/Route 234 Interchange The former diamond interchange is now a partial cloverleaf with loops in the northeast and southwest quadrants. The Route 234 bridge over I-95 has been widened and the acceleration and deceleration lanes on I-95 were lengthened. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt234.asp>)

Route 29/234 Intersection Safety Improvements Safety Improvements in the Manassas National Battlefield Park included adding left-turn lanes to each leg of the intersection, improving sight distance on Route 234, installing a pedestrian bridge, a crosswalk, traffic signals and re-timing traffic signals. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt29-rt234-safety.asp>)

Route 234 Bypass Construction of a 10-mile, four-lane bypass west of Manassas is complete. The bypass runs from I-66 to Brentsville Road where it connects with existing Route 234. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234byp.asp>)

Route 234 Widening Route 234 was widened from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane divided highway. (<http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide.asp>)

Route 234/Route 1 Park-and Ride Constructed a 360-space lot near Route I-95. (<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95-123.asp>)

Veteran's Memorial Park Construct a pedestrian bridge over the CSX Railroad from Veterans Memorial Park to Partridge Road. Completed, Oct. 24, 2003.

Major Transportation Studies

Tri-County Parkway Location Study

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/tcp.asp>)

VDOT is evaluating a new north/south transportation link to connect the City of Manassas with I-66 and the Dulles Corridor. More than 200 citizens attended information meetings held in Loudoun, Prince William and Fairfax counties during December 2002. The study team shared preliminary alternatives and sought public input. The study team is currently reviewing the initial range of conceptual alternatives to determine build alternatives for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Capital Beltway Study

(<http://project1.parsons.com/capitalbeltway/>)

In March 2002, the Federal Highway Administration approved the draft environmental impact statement for improvements to the 14-mile section between the Springfield Interchange and the American Legion Bridge. More than 1,000 citizens attended the public hearings held on May 28, 29 and 30, 2002. Currently, VDOT is evaluating the concept of implementing HOT lanes (high occupancy toll lanes) on the Beltway. VDOT will make a recommendation on the Capital Beltway Study to the Commonwealth Transportation Board in spring 2004.

I-66 Multimodal Transportation and Environmental Study

(<http://www.vhb.com/i66/newsletter3/index.htm>)

VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation are identifying possible highway, rail and bus improvements along the 24-mile corridor from the Capital Beltway to Route 15 at Haymarket. The Environmental Impact Statement is expected to be complete in 2004. Public information meetings are anticipated in early 2004.

Northern Virginia Bikeway and Trail Network Study

(<http://www.fhiplan.com/novabike/>)

In October 2003, VDOT held meetings in Reston, Arlington and Manassas on an interconnected and seamless network of bikeways across Northern Virginia. The report will be completed in November 2003 and serve as a planning tool to complete the network.

Route 1 Location Study

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt1.asp>)

VDOT has developed concepts for improving the 27-mile corridor from the Stafford County line to the Capital Beltway. Due to the length of the corridor the study is divided into three sections. Three location hearings were held in spring 2003. The steering Committee met on June 19 to make recommendations, but several issues require further study: the configuration of Possum Point Road intersection in Dumfries, configuration of the Dale Boulevard interchange, and whether to expand to eight lanes north of Route 235.

Route 50 Traffic Calming Project

(<http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt50.asp>)

VDOT and the Route 50 Traffic Calming Task Force are developing construction plans that will implement the concepts to calm traffic, enhance the scenic beauty and historic nature of the area and provide for enhanced pedestrian safety and accessibility along the corridor. An additional \$3 million has been identified in the Six-Year Plan for improvements at Gilberts Corner. This money will accrue towards construction of the proposed roundabouts at Routes 50 and 15.

Non-VDOT Studies:

Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit

(<http://www.dullestransit.com/>)

In August, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation submitted a formal request to the Federal Transit Administration to begin preliminary engineering on Phase I of the Metrorail extension. This request is currently pending.

The Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and revised General Plans, which address changes to the project associated with phased construction, were published in late October. Public hearings on the Supplemental Draft EIS are planned for December 3rd in Reston and December 11th in Loudoun County. The public comment period closes on December 29, 2003.

Work on the Project's Final Environmental Impact Statement is underway; publication expected in early 2004.

Capital Beltway Rail Feasibility Study<http://www.drpt.state.va.us/projects/previous/bwr.asp>

Study completed in April 2001 by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

Manassas National Battlefield Park Bypass Study<http://www.battlefieldbypass.com>

The Federal Highway Administration and National Park Service are developing and evaluating alternatives to allow for closing portions of Route 29 and 234 in the Park. The latest public workshop was held on July 16, 2003. Information on the construct build alternatives is available on the website above. The alternatives will be studied and described in detail in the Environmental Impact Statement.